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FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING FORCE IN CYPRUS

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus[1] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Having considered also the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the termination benefits paid to the locally employed civilians in the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus,[3]

Recalling Security Council resolution 186 (1964) of 4 March 1964, by which the Council established the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Force, the most recent of which was resolution 1146 (1997) of 23 December 1997,

Recalling also its resolution 51/235 of 13 June 1997 on the financing of the Force,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Force that are not covered by voluntary contributions are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

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[1] A/52/775 and Add.1.

[2] A/52/860 and Add.4.

[3] A/52/886, annex.

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Force by certain Governments,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Force, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Expressing its appreciation to all those Member States and observer States which have made voluntary contributions to the Special Account established for the financing of the Force for the period prior to 16 June 1993,

Noting that voluntary contributions were insufficient to cover all of the costs of the Force, including those incurred by troop-contributing Governments prior to 16 June 1993, and regretting the absence of an adequate response to appeals for voluntary contributions, including that contained in the letter dated 17 May 1994 from the Secretary-General to all Member States,[4]

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Force with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus as at 15 May 1998, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 15.3 million United States dollars, representing 13.2 per cent of the total assessed contributions from 16 June 1993 to the period ending 30 June 1998, notes that some 21.1 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. Urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Force in full and on time;

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[4] S/1994/647.

5. Takes note of the observations and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

6. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Force is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

7. Also requests the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to employ locally recruited staff for the Force against General Service posts, commensurate with the operational and substantive requirements of the Mission;

8. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus an amount of 602,900 dollars gross (647,400 dollars net), in addition to the amount of 45,079,500 dollars gross (43,049,600 dollars net) already appropriated for the Force under the provisions of General Assembly resolution 50/236 of 7 June 1996, for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997, taking into consideration the funding through voluntary contributions of one third of the cost of the Force, equivalent to 215,800 dollars, by the Government of Cyprus;

9. Decides also, as an ad hoc arrangement, taking into consideration the funding through voluntary contributions of one third of the cost of the Force, equivalent to 215,800 dollars, by the Government of Cyprus, to apportion among Member States the additional amount of 387,100 dollars gross (431,600 dollars net), taking into account the amount of 45,079,500 dollars gross (43,049,600 dollars net) already authorized under the terms of General Assembly resolution 50/236 for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997, in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A, B and C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B and 50/471 A of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1998 and 1999, as set out in its resolution 52/215 A of 22 December 1997;

10. Decides further that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 10 above, shall take into consideration the decrease in their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 44,500 dollars approved for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997;

11. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus an amount of _____ dollars gross (_____ dollars net) for the maintenance of the Force for the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999, inclusive of an amount of _____ dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and the amount of _____ dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi;

12. Decides also, as an ad hoc arrangement, taking into consideration the funding through voluntary contributions of one third of the cost of the Force, equivalent to _____ dollars, by the Government of Cyprus and the annual pledge of 6.5 million dollars from the Government of Greece, to appropriate the amount of _____ dollars gross (_____ dollars net), for the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999, to be assessed on Member States at a monthly rate of _____ dollars gross (_____ dollars net) in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution, subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Force beyond 30 June 1998;

13. Decides further that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 13 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of _____ dollars approved for the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999;

14. Expresses deep concern about the information in paragraph 31 of the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services[3] regarding the Memorandum of Understanding which led to the payment by the United Nations of the termination benefits;

[15. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that all managers exercising financial responsibility are issued with the most current version of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;]

[16. Further requests the Secretary-General to exercise utmost discipline in financial management to ensure compliance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, including rule 114.1;]

17. Decides to continue to maintain as separate the account established for the period prior to 16 June 1993 for the Force, invites Member States to make voluntary contributions to that account, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in appealing for voluntary contributions to the account;

18. Invites voluntary contributions to the Force in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

19. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus".